Coordinates: 47.24°N 38.85°E

Taganrog Aviation Museum

Taganrog Aviation Museum (Russian: Таганрогский музей авиационной техники) is one of the eleven Aviation museums in Russia and is the only one of its kind in Southern Russia.

Taganrog Aviation Museum

Таганрогский музей авиационной техники

Established	23 April 1973
Website	avia-museum.ru (http://avia-museum.ru/)

History

Since 1948, the 325th Aviation Repair Plant (325th ARP) is located at the Taganrog-Central air base. The Aviation Museum currently belongs to ARP.

The 325th ARP repairs of An-12, An-72 transport aircraft and equipment for Il-76, Tu-142, Su-25, Su-27, Mi-8 and Mi-24 helicopters.

However, in the early 1990s, the 325th ARR had one more task: it was to create a "Base for the destruction of Aviation Equipment of Frontline Aviation". This happened according to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, signed in 1990. Under this agreement, among other things, many combat aircraft from the USSR Air Force, and later the Russian Air Force, were to be disposed of. Only in Taganrog about 300 fighters and fighter-bombers were cut into metal.

Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Stoyanov and the commander of the base, Colonel Alexander Kornienko, appealed to the command of the 4th Air Army with the proposal to keep at least one exemplar of each type of aircraft entering the dismantlement, removing their engines and airborne systems. According to the idea of Vladimir Stoyanov, the rescued machines were to become a base for the Taganrog Museum of Aviation.

The commander of the 4th Air Army Vladimir Sergeyevich Mikhaylov approved their idea. On 23 April 1995 he ordered to save MiG-21bis, MiG-23M, MiG-25BM and Su-22 from utilization programme. Soon new aircraft were acquired: Aero L-39 Albatros, Aero L-29 Delfin, Yak-38 and An-2, which was piloted by Valentina Grizodubova, a Hero of the Soviet Union and a Hero of Socialist Labour.

Currently the exhibits include 12 types of aircraft.[1] One of the most interesting exhibit is the MiG-25BM, of which only 40 examples were constructed, and the one that is on display in Taganrog seems to be the only one that survived.[2][3]

Visitors are allowed to get inside each aircraft. Now the museum keepers are trying to acquire City Status for their museum.[4]

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